Nationwide protests on use of deadly force by law enforcement ...

# Should the CPRC Consider Some Extended Outreach?

Greg Smith
Riverside CPRC Commissioner – Ward 2
January 28, 2015

# Premises for Extended Outreach Proposal ...

 Current / recent nationwide protests against use of deadly force by law enforcement

- Perception by the some members of the public that such use of deadly force is racially-motivated
  - > instead of being driven by the actions of the perpetrator
    - regardless of his or her race

## Riverside Already Has a Solution – the CPRC

- 1) Do local protestors know about the CPRC, what we do, and why we exist?
- 2) Are local protestors <u>educated about split-second</u> <u>decisions</u> that law enforcement professionals have to make?
- 3) In the interest of <u>evolution</u> and <u>transparency</u>, don't we owe it to the citizens and protestors to AT LEAST LISTEN to their concerns?

# Does Riverside Currently Have a Problem w/perception of racially-motivated deadly force?

- Many would say "no"
- So why do anything? Why not "do nothing"?

#### **CPRC Mission Statement**

The Community Police Review Commission was created in order to *promote public confidence* in the professionalism and accountability of the sworn staff of the Riverside Police Department.

Does "doing nothing" promote public confidence when all of these nationwide protests are occurring?

> Probably not

Doing something => Evolution

## What Type of Extended Outreach?

- With RPD leadership, we should consider meeting with the leadership of local organizations with an interest in these nationwide protests.
- Which organizations?
  - I'm the CPRC rookie here so I don't know but my guess is that we can come up with a list.
  - This can be my action item if we decide to proceed

### Agenda for Such Outreach Meetings?

CPRC & RPD go together ...

- 1) Acknowledgement of the nationwide protests and perceptions
  - simply acknowledge (not admit) the perceptions
- 2) RPD reforms undertaken within RPD since 1998 Tyisha Miller incident
- 3) CPRC overview of the CPRC, why it exists, what it accomplishes
- 4) Suggest <u>education</u> on use of force (news clip video)
- **5)** <u>Listen</u> to their concerns

Discussion ... not just a Presentation



G. Smith / Riverside CPRC - 1/28/2015

### Why RPD and CPRC Together?

- Wouldn't that create the impression that the CPRC is captive to the RPD's point-of-view?
  - ➤ No start by explaining that the solution to these types of issues involves including EVERYONE in the discussion ... including the group we are reaching out to
  - There is no "US", no "THEM" ... there is only "WE"